

Interview Summary

Application No.

09/900,923

Applicant(s)

ELLIOTT, PAUL

Examiner

James R. Brittain

Art Unit

3677

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) James R. Brittain.

(3) _____.

(2) Leonard Belkin.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 06 December 2002.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference

c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 6 and proposed new claims (as amended).

Identification of prior art discussed: distinctions from the applied art were discussed.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.


Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The amendment would be filed and I indicated that further search would be required. No agreement was reached at this time as to allowable subject matter.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) ☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview(if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case unless both applicant and examiner agree that the examiner will record same. Where the examiner agrees to record the substance of the interview, or when it is adequately recorded on the Form or in an attachment to the Form, the examiner should check the appropriate box at the bottom of the Form which informs the applicant that the submission of a separate record of the substance of the interview as a supplement to the Form is not required.

It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

In the Claims

Marked up version showing changes:

1. A towel attachment device comprising:
 - a) a towel including an eyelet extending therethrough;
 - b) a clasp for releasably securing said device to clothing of a user, said clasp forming an S-Clip including a first side clip for releasably securing said clasp to the clothing and a second side clip; and
 - c) means for releasably attaching said towel and said clasp wherein said attaching means passes through said eyelet and is releasably secured to said second side clip thereby releasably securing said towel to the clothing via said attachment means and said clasp when said first side clip is secured to the clothing.
2. A towel attachment device as stated in Claim 1, wherein said S-Clip is constructed of a rigid material so as not to lose shape.
3. A towel attachment device comprising:
 - a) a towel including an eyelet extending therethrough;
 - b) a clasp for releasably securing said device to clothing of a user, said clasp comprising a retractable wire clip including a wire housing case; a wire positioned within said wire housing case; and a clip connected to said wire housing case, whereby said clip releasably secures said clasp

to the clothing of a user, said retractable wire clip further comprising a hollow ball positioned at a bottom side of said wire housing case and connected to an end of said wire, said hollow ball having a recess extending therethrough; and

- c) means for releasably securing said towel and said clasp wherein said attaching means passes through said eyelet and is releasably secured to said retractable wire clip via said recess in said hollow ball, thereby releasably securing said towel to the clothing via said attachment means and said clasp when said clip is secured to the clothing, wherein upon exertion of a force on said hollow ball causing said wire to extend from said wire housing case and thereby allowing said towel to extend from said clasp.

4. A towel attachment device comprising:

- a) a towel including an eyelet extending therethrough;
- b) a clasp for releasably securing said device to clothing of a user, said clasp comprising a single sided hook, said single side hook including a main body cylinder, a moveable button extending from said main body cylinder, a hook extending from one side of said main body cylinder and a latch movable between a first closed position and a second open position for releasably securing the clothing within said hook, said

moveable button controlling movement of said latch between said first closed position and said second open position, said main body cylinder including a recess extending therethrough on a side opposite said hook and said latch; and

- c) means for releasably attaching said towel and said clasp wherein said attaching means passes through said eyelet of said towel and further passes through said recess thereby releasably securing said towel to the clothing via said attachment means and said clasp when said clothing is received within said hook and said latch is in said first closed position.

5. A towel attachment device comprising:

- a) a towel including an eyelet extending therethrough;
- b) a clasp for releasably securing said device to clothing of a user, said clasp forming a double sided attachment hook, said double sided attachment hook including a main body cylinder, a first hook extending from a first side of said main body cylinder, a first latch movable between a first position providing access to said first hook and a second position preventing access to said second hook and a first moveable button for controlling movement of said first latch between said first position wherein the clothing can be received within said hook and said second position wherein the clothing can be releasably secured within

said hook and a second hook extending from a second side of said main body cylinder, a second latch movable between a first position providing access to said second hook and a second position preventing access to said second hook and a second moveable button for controlling movement of said second latch between said first and second positions; and

- c) means for releasably attaching said towel and said clasp wherein said attaching means pass through said eyelet and is releasably secured within said second hook when said second latch in said second position thereby releasably securing said towel to the clothing via said attachment means when said first latch is in the second position and the clothing is received within said first hook.

6. (amended) A towel attachment device comprising:

- a) a flat, rectangular shaped towel made of a single sheet of material and including an eyelet extending therethrough adjacent a corner of said towel;
- b) a clasp for releasably securing said device to clothing of a user, said clasp comprising a carabiner, said carabiner including a C-shaped member and a latch pivotally connected to said C-shaped member, said latch being movable between a first closed position and a second open

position, whereby when said latch is in said second open position, clothing is receivable within said C-shaped member and said C-shaped member is caused to extend through said eyelet, wherein said towel is releasably secured to the clothing upon movement of said latch into said first closed position via said carabiner.

7. A towel attachment device comprising:
 - a) a towel including an eyelet extending therethrough;
 - b) a clasp for releasably securing said device to clothing of a user, said clasp comprising a material attachment clip, said material attachment clip including a closed U-shaped ring; a first piece of material extending through said closed U-shape ring; and a second piece of material including an adhesive layer on a first side thereof, said adhesive layer securing said U-shaped ring between said first and second pieces of material, a first fastener positioned on one end of said first piece of material and a second fastener positioned on said second piece of material whereby when said first and second pieces of material are threaded through clothing of a user and said first and said second fasteners are brought together, said clasp is releasably secured to the clothing, whereby when said U-shaped ring passes through said eyelet said towel is releasably securing to the clothing via said clasp.

8. A towel attachment device as stated in Claim 7, wherein said first and said second pieces of material are formed from a durable, flexible material.

9. A towel attachment device as stated in Claim 7, wherein said fasteners are at least one of hook and loop fasteners, a snap, a button, and a magnet.

Add the following claims:

10. (new) A towel attachment device as stated in Claim 6 in which said towel has a rectangular flap forming a club cloth occupying a corner of said towel diagonally opposite the corner having said eyelet, said flap being attached along one edge to said towel whereby a user can clean wet and muddy items within a partial enclosure formed between said flap and said towel.

11. (new) A towel attachment device as stated in Claim 10 in which said rectangular flap is also attached to said towel along a second edge adjacent to said first to form.

12. (new) A towel attachment device as stated in Claim ¹⁰~~6~~ in which said towel has customized indicia thereon.

13. (new) A towel attachment device as stated in Claim ¹²~~6~~ in which said flap also has customized indicia thereon.